

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Amended) A method of auditing an election, said method comprising the steps of:

marking each of a plurality of voted paper ballots with a unique ballot identification,

scanning said plurality of voted ballots and generating computer readable visual representations of each of said ballots,

analyzing markings in said visual representations indicating a voter's intent made on said plurality of voted ballots and generating vote data associated with each of said plurality of voted ballots based on said visual representations of said ballots,

associating each said visual representation and corresponding vote data with said voted ballot based on said unique ballot identification.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said vote data comprises said unique ballot identification.

20. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of storing said computer readable visual representation and said vote data in a database.

21. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of storing said computer readable visual representation and said vote data in a relational database.

22. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising the steps of: retrieving at least one of said computer readable visual representations, displaying said computer readable visual representation and said vote data associated therewith on a display device, and modifying said vote data associated therewith.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising the steps of: retrieving at least one of said computer readable visual representations, displaying said computer readable visual representation and said vote data associated therewith on a display device, retrieving the voted ballot associated with said computer readable visual representation based on said unique ballot identification, and modifying said vote data associated with said voted ballot and said computer readable visual representation.

24. (Previously Amended) An election auditing system comprising:

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a scanner adapted to generate a computer readable visual representation of a voted paper ballot,

a processor adapted to analyze markings in said visual representations indicating a voter's intent made on said voted ballot and generate vote data based on said visual representation of said ballot,

said visual representation being associated with said vote data and said voted ballot.

25. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 24, further comprising a display device adapted to display at least one said visual representation and said vote data associated therewith.

26. (Original) A system as in claim 24, further comprising a ballot marking device adapted to mark said voted ballot with a unique ballot identification.

27. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 26, wherein said processor is adapted to associate said unique ballot identification with said vote data and said visual representation of said voted ballot.

28. (Previously Amended) A system as in claim 24, further comprising a storage device for storing said vote data and said visual representation of said ballot.

29. (Original) A system as in claim 28, wherein said storage device comprises a database.

30. (Original) A system as in claim 28, wherein said storage device comprises a relational database.

31. (Previously Amended) A system as in claim 28, further comprising a display device, wherein said processor is adapted to retrieve said visual representation and said associated vote data, and to display said visual representation and said vote data on said display device.

32. (Previously Amended) A system as in claim 28, wherein said processor is adapted to retrieve at least one of a plurality of records from said storage device, each record comprising vote data and a visual representation of a voted ballot.

33. (Original) A system as in claim 31, wherein said processor is adapted to modify said vote data.

34. (Original) A system as in claim 26, wherein said processor is adapted to modify said vote data based on a review of the voted ballot associated with said unique ballot identification in said vote data.

35. (Previously Amended) A computer readable medium of instructions for controlling a system to record and audit election results comprising:

a first set of instructions adapted to control said system to generate a computer readable visual representation of a voted paper ballot, and

a second set of instructions adapted to control said system to analyze markings in said visual representation made on said voted paper ballot and generate vote data based on said visual representation of said voted ballot, and associate said vote data with said visual representation.

36. (Previously Amended) A computer readable medium of instructions as in claim 35, further comprising a third set of instructions adapted to control said system to display at least one said visual representation and said vote data associated therewith.

37. (Original) A computer readable medium of instructions as in claim 35, further comprising a fourth set of instructions adapted to control said system to mark said voted ballot with a unique ballot identification.

38. (Previously Amended) A computer readable medium of instructions as in claim 37, wherein said fourth set is further adapted to control said system to associate said unique ballot identification with said vote data and said visual representation.

39. (Previously Amended) A computer readable medium of instructions as in claim 35, further comprising a fifth set of instructions adapted to control said system to store said vote data and said visual representation in a storage device.

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40. (Original) A computer readable medium of instructions as in claim 39, wherein said storage device comprises a database.

41. (Original) A computer readable medium of instructions as in claim 39, wherein said storage device comprises a relational database.

42. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of instructions as in claim 39, further comprising a sixth set of instructions adapted to control said system to retrieve at least one record from said storage device, said record comprising a visual representation of a voted ballot and vote data associated with said visual representation and said voted ballot.

43. (Original) A computer readable medium of instructions as in claim 42, further comprising a seventh set of instructions adapted to control said system to receive an input, and modify said vote data based on said input.